

□

□ WASHINGTON, DC – Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, was pleased that the Mexican Truck pilot program officially ended today. The Obama Administration announced that it would respond to H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, which the Senate passed yesterday, and end the current demonstration program. The legislation defunded the Mexican truck demonstration program and prevented a new demonstration program from being implemented. DeFazio led several bi-partisan efforts to end the program in the past two years. Despite several overwhelming votes by Congress to stop the program, the Bush Administration insisted on pushing forward with the program. Objection to the program is predominantly due to Mexico's less stringent regulations on hours-of-service, vehicle safety, and driver training and licensing.

"Mexican trucks pose a serious threat to the safety of our highways and the security of our country and I am glad that the Obama Administration responded to congressional action today to end this ill advised experiment," DeFazio said. "This is a major victory for the safety of the American public. I am happy that my subcommittee can focus our attention on the upcoming surface transportation authorization as opposed to stopping Mexican trucks from crossing our borders."